THIRTY-THREE SNAKES IN ONE,

A South African Tale that Involves Many

## THE HUSBAND'S WORST DAY

IT IS WHEN HIS WIFE TAKES HIM TO DO CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

Unhappy Strention of a Lone Man in a Mass of Merciless and Tireless Shoppers - Woman's Nature Changed by Shopping.

The experienced New York shopper advises that you go early in the morning to purchase, to match colors and patterns, or to do anything else at the big department stores except to buy Christman gifts. In order to do the last to your satisfaction you must take the busiest part of the day. If the shopper is a wife she should insist upon her husband accompanying her when she goes to pick out something for the children, not that she will consider his opinion of any value, but his presence will increase her confidence in herself. To be sure she may have decided exactly what she will buy for each, but she has done this with a mental reservation that for various causes she may change her mind. In the first place, she has probably to keep her ex penditures within a certain limit. Next, it may that she will see something that she likes bet



ter, and, leatly, if her husband fully agrees with her, it will be good cause to change her mind. The husband, if he is wise, puts off the evil day as long as possible, calculating that by so doing the limited time will compel his wife to make her purchases promptly. Women shoppers, as is well known, have their favorite res. One is best for ribbons, another for silks, and so on. A man rarely shops, but when he does he goes, as a rule, to the most convenient place. If he had his way, he would be satisfled with the first big store he came to. Not so with the wife. She must visit all the stores, and all the argument he can bring forward will not convince her that holiday goods differ little in variety or price. She has started out to visit them all, and do it she will. If he is politic he will quietly assent, trusting that she will tire they have made the rounds.

A careful business man before undertaking the purchase of any great number of articles



THE BARGAIN COUNTER.

would make out a memorandum of them, never trusting his memory to keep track of them. The woman has no such need. There are the five children, she says, the two servants, and her mother in the house, half a dozen nieces and nephews out of town, three children of the woman who comes in to do day's work, the wo-man, her husband's youngest brother, and her husband. It takes her fingers and thumbs twice over to make the tally, and once in a while she gets herself mixed in, and that make twenty-one.

A man with a wife and five children generally is experienced, and when the plunge is made at the first store he begins to save himself. He is no longer the leader, and for a time all he tries to do is to keep her in sight, holding himself in reserve. The serious duty of the hour has now



THE WAY SOME WOMEN GO SHOPPING. hundreds of others of her sex examining and pricing. She had fully made up her mind as to toys she should buy. Here they are the toys but the horrid doubt has arisen that the same things may be better at the next store, and, if not better, possibly cheaper. She recollects paints and that her sister bought the same at a bargain sale for 5 cents. She decides that it will be eafer to look further, but while here she will look at the ribbone, for she wants two yards very narrow to match a sample. Working back to the proper counter, in the course of the trade she learns from the salesgirt that there is an exhibition of fancy



WON'T TRUST TO DELIVERY WASHES . goods on the third floor. She thinks it would be a pity to mise the opportunity, and her husband, who has been making himself comfortable on a stool, is quite ready for a change, Half an

shool, is quite ready for a change, that an hour is spent very pleasantly among the fancy goods, but nothing suitable for presents is found. The man regrets having, for he has sampling hew reckers.

Furtunately for both they have begun shopping up town, and the our stores are not far apart, so that he cauch time is last or effort wasted in going from the to mother. With the smaller childrin taken care of the work will be easier, the wife says, as the tay department is nough in the real place resisted, and as the af-

telle boards. Certainly they are bargains, and one is bought. As her husband is giving directions about sending it home, the thought occurs that it might be broken in transit, which would be a shame. Of course her husband can carry it, she declares, for it is so very, very light and he has nothing in hand. He suggests that although light it is somewhat



SHE INSISTS ON "PILGRIM'S PROGRESS;" HE WANTS "TOM SAWYER." wasts "for sawyen."
bulky, but to no purpose, and he takes up his burden. As he stands waiting he watches the apparently tireless women, and wonders how they can do it. His own back sches, seemingly, as it never did before, and he feels just as he did when attacked with the grip last year. He realizes, too, that the worst has not yet come; that the work is not half done. His wife is like the bee, she moves from place to place seeking novelites and bargains, outwardly giving no sign of fatigue, and although he hates his part of the task he cannot help admiring her indefatigable energy. Then the crowd lurches on him and his bundle receives the crush. Trouble is piling up thick and fast. His wife is without mercy and insists that he must carry her purchases, that is, part of them, and she will take the rest. The rest is a small doll.

The afternoon is more than half gone when the energy of the woman seems to fail. Her husband suggests that they shall stop for the day. For a moment she faiters; then the temptation is scorned. She will take a glass of ice



WILL SHE EVER GET THEM ALL HOME?

will she ever get them all home?

cream soda and brace up. Reaching the fountain, they find it closed for the holiday season, but a drug store is near, and thither they go. They both take refreshments, the husband winking to the drug clerk and getting something stronger than tea. The wife is again ready for business. Books are to be bought. The husband suggests a well-known book store, but she differs with him because the bargain spirit is still with her, and so they are jammed into an elevator and landed on the upper floor of another big department store. There are books by the cords, not conveniently arranged on shelves, but piled up on the floor and on counters like so many bricks. The clerks are extra help, and know nothing about their business, with the result that she cannot find what she wants. But the prices are so cheap that she uys, overlooking the fact that the paper, print, and binding are bad and dear at any price.

The husband has had ample opportunity during these hours of waiting to observe how others besides his wife shop for Christmas gifts. He notices that there are fifty women to one man; that the man alone quickly makes up his mind, and usually seems to know what he wants. The man unused to such surroundings is modest about pushing himself forward and making his wants known, with the result that he is im-



posed upon by the employees. The women shoppers treat him as if he had no business there. They crowd him and posh him and shove him. He is long-suffering and meek. If twisted one way, he stands patiently until some one twists him back. He acts as if he believed himself a black sheep. His manner is full of apology. He is different if accompanied by some of his women folks, and is not so much of a sufferer. The women shoppers when on their native heath are not like the gentle creatures seen standing in a crowdel street car. They pick up a piece of delicate bric-à-brac, regardless of the sign "Hands off, please!" handle it freely, and assume an air of proprietorship which is dumfounding to the modest man. He can think of no comparison, except it be the regular customer attacking a free lunch the day before Thanksgiving. She aiways has her wits about her, this self same shopper. She asks if the clevator is going down when she sees it moving up. She insists on crowding in regardless of others



coming off. Ten in the car, they all try for one place, and that the one nearest the door. If two cars are standing open, and the elevator man tells her which goes first, she chooses the other, because fewer passengers are in it, and never seeming to learn that it will be filled before it starts.

Toward 6 o'clock the husband tries to beg off for the day, but the wife is inexorable. Shoping at night is a novelity to the city resident. The stores are not so crowled, except in the toy and book denartments. The man lises it better, for he is not alone in his missery. There are nearly as many men how as women, and the crows moves along with a quicker step. It seems more like bookness to him.

An afternoon and evening spent at this work is too much for the ordinary man. He and wife reach home at last. She sits up until midnight telling her mother of the day's experiences, while he rolls into bed completely used up. "YOU DO NOT PAY ME PROPER ATTENTION, SIR!"

From the Washington Post.

They were two Galety girls, they were, and they were taking in the sights of the Capitol. The fron from of their soft silk akins was beard in the marble corridors, and the merry chatter of their lively tongues awakened the echoes of the whispering gallery. They were disposed to gue the numerous bald-headed Senators, for they are familiar with baid heads in the front row, don'therknow, and they were also inclined to say sporty things about our great and good isorge. Washington. They climbed the staircases, they admired the pictures they strained their necks to sick up at the top of the rotunda, and they gave deliciteful little feminine shrieks when it was suggested that perhaps they might like to climb to the eliminit of the white dome. But they were lappiest of all when they were seconted down to the restaurant, where they solved a charming tunch.

They were not himse.

Two very companionable Senators were with them, and the girls had a real good time.

THE PALO ALTO SYSTEM.

ARNATOR STANFORD'S METHOD OF TRAINING TROTTING HORSES.

The Progressive Ideas Which Sent Out So. Many Record Holders Charles Marvin Was Slow to He Converted, but Once He Saw the System in Operation He Became an Enthusiant The Trotting Kindergarten, How Evolved and Used.

Probably no form of outdoor sport has grown more rapidly in public favor in the last four years than harness racing, and, except in the two greater cities of the continent and a few minor points, it may fairly be said to have a firmer bold on the general public than any other sport. With the rapid extension of the business of breeding and racing harness horses improvement has been equally rapid in every department connected with the industry, and In none more than in that of training.
Of course the general system of training

both thoroughbred and trotting racers in the last decade has differed materially from that pursued a generation ago; but in the last few years the changes and modifications in the methods pursued by the most successful trotting trainers have been especially marked, and this has been due probably more to the influence of what is known as "the Palo Alto system" than to any other single cause.

Almost every year from 1880 to 1894 Palo Alto has "sprung" some new sensation on the trotting world. Its list of champions, from Hinda Rose, its first yearling record holder, to Adbell, 2:23, as a yearling to-day, is one that no other establishment even remotely approaches, In that time Palo Alto has produced four year-Hing world's record holders, four two-year-old world's record holders, three three-year-old world's record holders, four four-year-old world's record holders, one "queen of the turt," and one stallion champion, not to speak of many phenomenal trotters below the championship plane. The system of training that produced an Arion, a Sunol, a Palo Alto, if it developed nothing else would naturally interest and in-fluence all progressive trainers and breeders of trotters, and the recent success of Mr. Marvin with the Prospect Hill trotters has reawakened interest in the system he did so much to mould. This, properly called the Palo Alio "system." differs radically from the established methods of the old-time trainers in two chief particu-

(1.) In training at short "brushes," instead of driving repeated full miles at slower rates. (2.) The invention and adoption of the minia-

ture training track for young trotters. The story of the evolution of the system that has done so much in the way of producing phenomenal speed in harness is worth telling. The late Senator Leland Stanford was a man of marked originality of thought and of dogged and courageous persistency in whatsoever he undertook; but, not even in his part in building the first transcontinental railroad nor in any of the other enterprises that in the aggregate threw together one of the greatest for-tunes even of the golden State and age, did he exhibit these characteristics in a higher degree than in his adherence to his own convictions as to the systems of breeding and training best devised to bring the trutting horse to the highest point of development. As a breeder he believed in the liberal use of the blood of the thoroughbred race horse in improving the tratter, and practised the theory more successfully than had any before him; but it was in his theories of training that Senator Stanford made the most daring, successful, and interesting departure from the paths generally followed since training for fast trotting speed first began.

Like Mr. Bonner, Senator Stanford had the inherent love of the horse, that, accompanied by what has been loosely called "an eye for form "-the intuitive appreciation of individuality-makes the "natural" horseman; and, like Mr. Honner again, it was not until reasonably late in life that he began to give serious attention to the pursuit that was his chief pleasure. But in less than ten years from its real founda-tion, the 11,000-acre ranch in the Santa Clara Valley was the most famous as it certainly was the most extensive horse-breeding establishment in America. It more than once held all the records for young trotters up to four years old; and it is but natural that the system of training that brought such results should widetraining that brought such results should widely interest horsemen, and leave its impress upon the method of educating young horses to trid fast and conditioning them to sustained efforts. It must not, however, be supposed that the Palo Alto system, as latterly practised, was a sudden inspiration. It was, it is true, even at the beginning a positive innovation, but the system under which Sunol and Arion were trained to world-heating form was one evolved gradulative from the crude beginning by inductive and alive from the crude beginning by inductive and the contained somewhat in this same line. One Arthur E. Viney, in a letter to the London Times, vouches for the story.

Near where Mr. Viney lives at Ceres, Cape Colony, there is an ostrich farm run by a Mr. Mailerby, while out waiking, chanced upon a large blacksnake. Usually these suakes are very swift and difficult to world-beating form was one evolved gradually from the crude beginning by inductive and sometimes by accidental degrees. Over twenty years ago an obscure barse in California named Occident showed such wonderful speed that Governor—Californians always call him Governor—Stanford paid a high price for him, this being his first notable purchase. So high were the pretensions of "the dark horse" that his first race was acainst the then Queen of the Turf, Goldsmith Maid. He was unsuccessful in racing, but in 1873 he lowered the world's record to 2:1654, and thus, in his first purchase, "the Governor picked a record breaker, Later upon this horse his theory of training was first ried. In 1878 the trotting department at Palo Alto had assumed serious proportions, and Gov. Stanford decided to engage a trainer, selecting Charles Marvin, who had already earned a great reputation with the famous Smuggler, with which horse he had not endy ongtured the staillion record, but had vanguished the aimost invincible Goldsmith Maid. "The Governor" explained to his trainer his theory and Instructed

He will be the property of the

OBSCURE BORDER HEROES.

CHAMP CLARVE CHARACTERISTIC
SPECIAL NITHE HOUSE.

A Specimen of Southwestern Oractory Their
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This and Sometimes At the Speaker.
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on "The Obscure Heroso of the Border," delicated
on "The Obscure Heroso of the Border," delicated
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Clark was born and reared near Laught and the
merine service, but it was much more entereduced,
land, the best did to part:

"My thems to-day is the heroes of the border
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rays, I said on Saturaday, and they laughed and
short a year to young to suit he part
states during the war, of both the bins and the
rays, I said on Saturaday, and the jaughed and
lived all his life in that thin looder land, Key,
They thought that was funny. They do not
know how aman feels who was born and has been and taken, if the listers
was the Laughter I have seen the
lived and his life in that thin looder land, the
rays to young to see the proper layer and did
life life in the second plane to
up the proper layer and the
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tha From the outside, and was supported by posts inclining so sharply inward, that the coit could "hug" the raid without striking the posts with his legs. In this little course the footing was always kept very coit and sace; and the turns were very sharply thrown up on the outside, the grade being fully foot inchies to the foot and thus even around, so short, a curve the young trutter could go without to any appreciable extent having to abute his speed to preserve his equilibrium. A nuch more othorare and complete miniature track was afterward built at the bold. Alto of the Lock - Prospect, Hall may some of the rarest of the many treats the ways one of the rarest of the many treats the horse-loving wider to Pale aid in its proudest days enjoyed. It was to the majority a reveils thin to see the youngsters from around the little track with no restraining rein, yet with the steadiness of oid campalgners; and no one will opportunities for continuous observation who saw the difference in action and deportment between the green pupil and the one who has been tween the green pupil and the one who has been dentity the effect of the same time to assist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to passist the development of muscle, and of "wind," or time to that he was not to be a set of the halder ting, and he was "off." As a rule at lirat he would callop wildly for a while from the halter ting, and he was "off." As a rule at lirat he would callop wildly for a while but tring of that, would settle to a tot, in while halt tring, and he wa seemed to learn what was wanted and to perceive that he was not going to be punished or hurt was one of the most remarkable features of the work. With each day in the miniature track the apt pupil to an astonishing degree improves in steadfastly sticking to the trotting gail, and in the seeming appreciation of what he is there for, as well as in precision and rapidity of action. The Palo Alto plan is never to work a coit to the point of exhaustion, which means discouragement, but just to the limit of healthy to his physical gain as well as in the mental development that is essential to the really reliable and first-class trotting race horse.

Thus, through steady stages, the coil finally graduates from the miniature track already a trotter by developed instinct, "knowing that the trot is the gait at which he must so, and with the muscles most used as that gait improved and hardened. There can be no acceptant to the sail.

lived all his life in that thin border land. Kenturks, West Viratina, Musscart, Kanasa, and Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, if the history of those live States could be written, it would discount all of Sir Walter Scott's novels. There my people and my wife's people lived and died. There my children were born. There two of them he buried. I love the people of that border land—the best, the noblest, the bravest people under heaven—and I hate the men who jeer at them. I am soing to tell you how a border man feels. He is not a buily, he is not quarrelsome, but he understands how to take his own part. [Laughter and applause,] It happened to me, Mr. Speaker, that I was born and reared in Kentucky, that I lived two years in West Virginia, and most prople in that State believe I was born and raised there. I am much obliged to them for the kind things they have said about me. I lived eleven weeks in Kanasa, and I spent the remainder of my life in Missouri. When the war began I was eleven years old: I was a boy. I wanted to go into the army. They laughted the other day when I said I tried to get into both armies. That is the truth. It is a matter of history, and I am going to repeat it to day. A boy of my tender years had no politics. I tried to join Frank Wolford's cavairy. They would not have me. I tried to join Morgan's, and they would not have me.

"Down there where I was living one company went into Frank Wolford's cavairy, and another went into John Morgan's avasiry. Wolford was the very best specimen of the human race that ever stood on the floor. He sai in this Congress vice. He was a rough Kentucky mountain lawyer; and, when you have said that, you have passed the highest encomium that can be passed on a lawyer. (Laughter.) He would not wear a Colonel's uniform. He wore that of a private. They said that they never could get enough of that regiment together to have a dress parade, except on the eve of a battle, and then they gathered in from the feur chared there were not enough men left of that gallant band to have a graduates from the miniature track already a tracter by developed instinct, "knowing that the trot is the gait at which he must so, and with the must-less most u ed at that gait improved and hardened. There can be no question that a youngster so concated must have, when entering upon serious work in harness, a vast advantage over one that begins work green and untutored. The story goes that there was once a famous race herse in the South who had a notoriously homely head. This being commented upon one day is the presence of the owner, that iraselile Southern gentleman hotly retoried. Damn it, eit: he don't run on his head." Senator Stanford believed that, though horses do not trot on their heads, they trot largely from their heads. He was, as every observing horseman must be, a believer in horse phrenology, and therefore necessarily in horse psychology. The thoroughbred mares he chose to experiment with in his trotting stand were a lected not more because of some spitiade at the trotting gait than of their good heads, heads indicating levelness and intelligence. Naturally, then, the value of the miniature track in moulding the meniality of the soung trotter took a high place in the Senator's training philosophy, and Mr. Marvin, the most successful of all trainers of young trotters, fully shared the convictions of the owner of Psio Alio in respect to the value of this part of the training equipment and system, to which he has often attributed much of his success.

The miniature track, moreover, proved valuable in sitting the wheat from the chaff. Fracuent thies to the centrary notwithestanding, the boy who is brightest in the training equipment and system, to which he has often attributed much of his success.

The miniature track, moreover, proved valuable in sitting the wheat from the chaff. Fracuent thies to the centrary notwithestanding, the poy who is brightest in the track hard school is as a man generally brightest in the turf. The most promising were taken out at fourtien to sixteen mounts of age, introdu

Every one is familiar with the little trick contrivances, originally of Japanese construction, which consist in a series of boxes, one inside the other, until after opening box after box, each smaller than its predecessor, the experimenter finds in the centre a tiny kernel of wood, Equally familiar is the April fool postage constructed on the same principle, where the victim receives a large express parcel, and after paying the charges unwinds wrapping after wrapping, and opens box after box, only to find nothing but a wad of paper in the centre. From South Africa waiking, chanced upon a large blacksnake.
Usually these snakes are very swift and difficult to catch, but this particular reutile moved slugting the analysis of the same and put gishly away when the ostrich farmer applicable and the same and the sam him him proached. It was an easy matter for Mr. Malhim him him proached. It was an easy matter for Mr. Malhigh lerby to kill the reptile with a stick which he
that of the carried. Then he noticed that the snake was of the lin by the carried. Then he noticed that the snake was very fat; quite swollen, in faci, and heavy beyould what was to be expected from its size. He took it home and there cut it open. Inside was later took it home and there cut it open. Inside was a yellow snake almost as large as the black snake. The yellow snake faced the blacksnake's tail. This was a surprise, but more was to follow. The yellow snake also looked bloated. So with Malerby cut open the yellow snake.

Mr. Malerby cut open the yellow snake.

"And yet every time that an unit put Frank Blair and put Frank Blair and the Southern Classes dence. These people saved the Union. They could have established the Confederacy. Think of Frank Blair leading that host of heroes in the rebel army! The charge of the Old Guard at Waterloo, the charge of Mal Charles at Pultowa, all pale into utter insignificance compared with Blair could have done at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the Southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them, and the southern Classes at the head of them.

right square through the body with a minic bull. He knew that if they caught him they would

time. Wolford said at last: 'Dama you, I didn't come down here to steal negroes: I came to fight. My regiment is not very good for dress parade, but if you bring out the three best Mich-igan regiments you have got, I will run them out of Tennessee before sundown.' Obscure heroes: I suppose I will be flayed in a hunired papers to-morrow for this speech. [Laughter.]

It Inspires Humor and Brings Varied Mis-

BODY AND MORALS TESTED.

THE ORDEAL DEFORE APPLICANTS FOR LIFE INSURANCE.

Pennte Who Pass It Not Likely to Bie Moon Compations and Habits that May Reject. The Physical Examination, Persons who have passed the examination for

fe insurance in a conservative company have the satisfaction of knowing that, barring accidents and unforemen contingencies, their chances of living at least twenty years are as certain as anything in the future can be. That they will live much longer is almost equally certain, for a company doing business rationally will not insure a person who does not come from a long lives family. The period of twenty years is named, because at the end of that time the holder of the popular tentine policy, which the wise man will take in preference to the ordinary death policy, can get his money back, plus curapound interest at a higher rate than most investments pay nowadays. If he chosees he can ordinarily have, instead, a paid-up policy generally about three-fifths greater than the original. Or he can take the three-fifths in cash and keep the original policy, on which nothing more need be paid. After three years, too, he can cannot the policy and get back nearly half of what he has paid in. This is a doubtful advantage. It is on these layed policies that the company makes its prost. Not much is made out of the stayer.

The tentine policy under consideration is the one most frequently issued by a well-known company, and its advantages are only hinted at, as it would take up too much space to go into detail. The questions asked of an applicant for insurance are in a general way alike in all, although perhaps not in the same order. The first asked in the company referred to are as to the applicant's age, race, and nationality, and whether he is married or single. On the age depends the rate of premium, a middle-aged person having, of course, to pay more than a young man. The applicant, or subject as he is termed, paper, must then tell whether he has been insured before in that or any other company, for what amount, and if any application for insur-ance has ever been rejected or modified. As to this last, he must answer in detail. He must then give his present occupation and any other he may have had. The next question is:

Are you now or have you ever been, either directly or indirectly, concerned in either the manufacture or sale of any kind of alcoholic beverage?

If the applicant be a barrender or saloon keeper his chances of getting insured are small. A wholesale dealer, if there is no bar on his premises, stands a better show. He may, however, have to pay a higher premium, as must a person in what are considered extra hazardous occupations or manufactures, of which the list is quite long. A powder maker is naturally not a persona grafa with an insurance company The subject is next questioned as to his residence, past and present, and whether he con-template: a change and for what reason.

secaped, to live, though he was badly shot, and had to be taken to a notypical, borbond a company went into Morean's cavalry. They were made up of the flower of the Kentucky glive, and the control of the state of the Kentucky glive, and the control of the state of the Kentucky glive, and the control of the state of the Kentucky glive, and the control of Morgan's crack regiment, they, Medically glive in the Colonel of Morgan's crack regiment, they was control of Morgan's crack and fought his way to a Colonel's commission in the finest band of sodiers that very regiment was control of the A question often decisive is as to the age of the subject's parents, grandparents, brothers and

ade, but if you bring out the three best Mich a regiments you have got, I will run them of Tennessee before sundown. Obscure oes! I suppose I will be flaved in a hundred ers te-morrow for this speech. [Laughter.]

\*\*AWBACKS OF A BLACK EYE.\*\*

[Inspires Humor and Brings Varied Misery Upon Its Owner.\*\*

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